

COURT IS ASKED TO DROP COUNTY AGENT

PETITION BEING CIRCULATED IN TERRITORY ABOUT CITY REQUESTING ABOLITION OF COUNTY AGENT AND CLUB WORK

WANT ALL EXPENSES REDUCED

Work Being Done Quietly But In Meeting With Opposition From Persons Acquainted With Work—Misleading Statements Being Made

Petitions asking the County Court to drop the work of the County Agent, the County Club Leader, and to in every way possible reduce the expenses of the county is being circulated about the territory around the city. So far as known, the petitions have not been circulated among the business men, or among any large number of ranchers who are familiar with the work of the Farm Bureau.

For a time the petitions received some support but from late reports that have come in the circulators, who are working for some unknown group, have found that their efforts are not being encouraged and that real opposition will be found in the effort to do away with progressive efforts the ranchers have undertaken to solve their problems.

One of the persons to whom the petition was presented, and who refused to sign it, declared that the petition set forth a gloomy picture of the taxpayers condition.

An investigation reveals the fact that when the tax budget for this year was prepared with the items for the County Agent work included not a single taxpayer protested.

When the petitions were presented in the vicinity of Nyssa no encouragement was received, according to the reports which have reached the Argus, in fact in no section where the work of the Farm Bureau is known and where the ranchers have co-operated are the petitioners receiving encouragement.

The facts of the case are that all of the increase made in taxes this year is due either to the increase in state taxes due to increased appropriations by the legislature, or to the direct vote of the people in the increased millage tax for higher education. County taxes in Malheur county have been reduced nearly 50 per cent. This fact the petitioners have entirely overlooked.

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS ARRANGE FOR TRACK MEET

Saturday, March 19 a meeting of the principals and superintendents of the Malheur County schools was held at the Ontario High School for the purpose of completing arrangements for a county track meet to be held at Vale the first week in May. Superintendents Lusty of Nyssa, Ager of Vale and Principal Boucher of Ontario attended.

The meet will include all of the usual events for both boys and girls. The participants will be divided into three classes according to age. There will be 41 events, each counting 15 points. First place counts 5 points, second place 4, third place 3, fourth place 2, and fifth place 1. The team having the most points at the end of the meet will receive a large loving cup, given by the Commercial club of Vale. Each individual winner will be given a ribbon.

PROGRAM

Classes for Boys and Girls
"A" Class, boys or girls 12 years of age or under on May 6, 1921.
"B" Class, boys or girls 13 or 14 years of age on May 6, 1921.
"C" Class, boys or girls 15 to 21 years of age on May 6, 1921.

Program of Events
(Events called at 10 A. M. and 1:30 P. M.)

BOYS—Classes and Events

"C", 100 yd. Dash, 120 Hurdle, Basket Ball for baskets, NOON, 100 yd. Dash, Base Ball or Distance, 440 yd. School Relay race, 4 best runners to a team, each to run 110 yds.

GIRLS—Classes and Events

"A", 50 yd. Dash, 120 Hurdle, All-Up Indian Club, NOON, 100 yd. Dash, Potato Race.
"B", 50 yd. Dash, 120 Hurdle, All-Up Indian Club, NOON 100 yd. Dash, Potato Race.
"C", 50 yd. Dash, 120 Hurdle, Pole Vault, Run B. Jump, Run Hi Jump, NOON, 100 yd. Dash, 220 yd. Run, Shot Put 8 lbs.
"B", 50 yd. Dash, 120 Hurdle, Run Hi Jump, Pole Vault, Run B. Jump, NOON, 100 yd. Dash, 220 yd. Run, Shot Put.
"C", 100 yd. Dash, 120 Hurdle, Run B. Jump, Run Hi Jump, Pole Vault, NOON, 220 yd. Run, 440 yd. Run, Javelin Throw, Shot Put.

MOTOR TROUBLE IS CAUSE OF DELAY OF THIS ISSUE

Argus readers who drive autos need not be told of the exasperations of motor trouble to appreciate how baffling they are sometimes. Yet we must tell you that the burning of bearings and the ruining of insulators on the motor of the linotype baffled us for two days, all of Thursday and Friday, and caused the delay in this issue of the Argus. Owing to the delay a number of stories have not received the attention due them, and others had to be left out entirely.

GRANGE LEADER TO HOLD MEETING HERE

C. E. Spence to Address Gathering At Cairo Grange Hall on Friday May 6—His First Visit to Malheur County

C. E. Spence, master of the Oregon State Grange will visit Malheur county for the first time next month when he comes to address a meeting at the Cairo Grange Hall on the evening of May 6.

Mr. Spence who is one of the best known leaders of the farm movement in the west has long been master of the state grange and also a prominent member of the State Farm Bureau Federation.

Mansfield Coming Too
Beside the addresses of Mr. Spence the ranchers of the County will have an opportunity of hearing Geo. E. Mansfield, president of the State Farm Bureau Federation who will hold a series of meetings in the county, according to advice received by V. V. Hickox, president of the County Farm Bureau. The dates of Mr. Mansfield's meetings have not been determined, but will be announced later.

LOCAL PERSONALS

Mrs. H. H. Crisp is visiting relatives at Clifton Ferry.

Mrs. Chapman of Boise is visiting her son, H. L. Chapman.

Wm. Taylor has purchased a residence and four lots on the east side.

Born, at Juntura, Friday, April 8, to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Tipton, a son, Mrs. Tipton was Miss Pearl Carter formerly of Ontario.

J. O. Philabaum returned Saturday from Juntura to bring the body of a son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ryan buried at that place seven years ago, to inter it in the Catholic cemetery here. He returned Wednesday from Nampa with the body of a second son that had been buried there and reinterred the remains by the side of his brother.

Mrs. Henry Griffin, Red Cross representative for this section returned Tuesday from Portland where she had been to place Mrs. Cook of Kingman Colony in a sanitarium.

G. E. Stanfield of Vale was an Ontario visitor Wednesday.

Ben Stewart came down from Folly Farm, in Harney county, to consult local physicians. Mr. Stewart reports that the sheepmen who feed in the desert the past winter brought their flocks through in good shape.

Sam Creme of Weiser spent Tuesday in Ontario.

Mrs. J. Bradberry of Nampa was in Ontario Tuesday.

Mrs. Jacob Prinzing of Nampa visited in Ontario Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kelsey motor-ed up from Nampa Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Sproul returned Friday from California where they spent the winter. They made the trip by auto from Long Beach in six days.

Mrs. C. K. Avery who handles a line of goods for a prominent Chicago firm is a guest of Mrs. Grace Barrie at Hotel Moore while in Ontario.

F. B. Ball left last week for Los Angeles. He expects to return to Ontario soon by auto accompanied by Mrs. Ball.

Rev. Reed, former pastor of Presbyterian church of Payette, accompanied by Mrs. Reed and some friends were Sunday visitors in Ontario.

W. C. Stone of Portland, who was awarded contract for the highway has been in Ontario since Sunday lining up the work.

David Graham returned Monday from a several days stay at Portland.

J. A. Schmidt of McDowell Furniture Co. was a business visitor to La Grande the last of the week, going from there to Walla Walla and to his home at Freewater, Oregon, returning Tuesday.

E. M. Dean of Nyssa was an Ontario visitor Tuesday.

Mrs. Walter Shimp of Little Willow country was shopping in Ontario Monday.

AGGIES' DADS GUESTS AT CHICKEN DINNER

Benefits of Agricultural Training Lauded by Boys Themselves and by Fathers Who Have Followed Interest Shown by Sons

The sixteen boys in the class in Agriculture at the High School were hosts, last Friday evening at a chicken dinner in honor of their fathers, and the members of the board of education. The dinner was served by the girls of the domestic science department, and was an event which the "dads" will not soon forget.

Wynne Luscombe, president of the class presided as toastmaster and James McCreight was the spokesman of the boys. Both boys told of the scope of the work carried on in this class and of the benefits which have been derived. J. C. McCreight, G. W. Dean and others of the "Dads" present declared that since the course was started their boys had shown greater interest in school work than ever before.

Judge W. W. Wood, Dr. W. J. Weese, Rev. W. J. Luscombe and others of the men present discussed the place of the school and of vocational training in the scheme of modern life, comparing this with the limited advantages of their day. Among the other speakers were Superintendent of Schools J. M. McDonald, Prof. M. D. Thomas who gave a broad view of the aims of the course and asked for the co-operation of the parents. G. K. Aiken spoke on the attitude of the public toward the school.

NYSSA LODGE HOLDS EXTENDED SESSION

Ontario, Vale and Parma Members Join in Initiating Two Candidates—Idaho Grand Master Gives Lecture

Masons from Ontario, Vale and Parma journeyed to Nyssa Monday night to be present at the initiatory session of Golden Rule Lodge A. F. & A. M. and to enjoy the banquet which followed.

The Ontario officers, Ralph Dunbar, master, C. F. Trow, senior warden and Harry Clement, junior warden, assisted by the degree team conferred work on the first candidate initiated, while the Nyssa men led by Frank Hall, master, E. M. Dean, senior warden and Fred Young, junior warden presided for the second.

Ex-Grand Master Coffin of Idaho delighted the gathering with an eloquent and unique lecture on Masonry and following the lecture the members repaired to the basement of the Presbyterian church where the women of the Eastern Star had prepared an elaborate dinner. It was early morning before the delegation from Ontario returned home.

REAL REASON WHY MALHEUR COUNTY TAXES INCREASED

Before jumping to the conclusion that the County Court is to be blamed for the increase in taxes in Malheur County, view the table given below of the State taxes which the property owners of this county have been called upon to pay since 1916, which in round numbers were as follows:

1916	\$31,000
1917	36,000
1918	37,000
1919	42,000
1920	65,000
1921	162,000

Note that the increase from 1920 to 1921 is almost \$100,000 or nearly 150 per cent increase, and in fact 500 per cent increase over 1916. This increase is attributable to the affirmative vote of the people in increasing the millage tax for higher education and for the primary education.

LOCAL PERSONALS

W. T. Leroy, a mining man from the Cook inlet mining district of Alaska is in town visiting his mother, Mrs. D. Leroy. Mr. Leroy is highly impressed with the appearance of this country and will boost it on his return to the north, he says.

C. A. Kief, Mrs. L. L. Hickox and Mr. and Mrs. Orin Bull drove to Caldwell Sunday. Mr. Hickox is employed by the Concrete Pipe Co. of Caldwell and the family expect to move there soon.

Willard Hober and family moved to Caldwell Wednesday where Mr. Hober has employment with the Concrete Pipe Company.

Rev. W. F. Cochran left Tuesday for King Hill, Idaho to attend the meeting of the Presbytery.

Mrs. T. J. Bronsman and Miss Ella Bronsman of Vale visited at the John Bronsman home this week.

NOTIFY WEISER MEN TO ABATE NUISANCE

County Officials Visit Scene of Recent Garbage Dumping on Lower Dead Ox Flat by Weiser Officials and Business Men

Weiser officials and business men, when they started their campaign to clean up their city selected Oregon as the dumping ground, carting in all, some two hundred wagon loads of filth and rubbish to the flat on the Oregon side opposite that city. Not only that, it has been the practice for Weiser men to haul all the dead animals and other noxious objects from their town to Oregon for disposal.

Upon complaint having been lodged by the people living on the lower Dead Ox Flat, County Judge E. H. Test, District Attorney R. D. Lytle and County Health Officer Brown, visited the scene of Weiser's activities yesterday and filed notice upon the Idaho men that the practice must be stopped, and stopped immediately.

"There are many ways in which the practice can be and will be stopped," said Mr. Lytle yesterday, after the session at Weiser. "If they do not comply with the order given today we will see that they do so if it is necessary to call upon the federal health authorities to prohibit the transportation of such material across the state line. However, our state nuisance laws are sufficient to stop the practice effectively."

INTEREST TAKEN IN CLUB WORK

A great deal of interest has been shown in Boys and Girls Club work in Malheur County this year. During the month of March, 14 clubs completed their organization, selected their local club leader and began active work on their projects. 130 members were enrolled for the various projects during this time, making a total enrollment up to the first day of April of 235.

This club work is conducted by the Extension Service of the Oregon Agriculture College and the United States Department of Agriculture, cooperating with the State Department of Education.

The objects of Club Work are to interest the boys and girls in farm activities, to train their hands and minds by productive employment, to teach the Club members the latest and best methods for conducting each of the various projects, to develop leaders, to train for achievement, and to teach the value of service for others.

Not only are the communities in general showing an active interest in the work, but certain individuals throughout the county are going further and giving their time and money, for the direct benefit of the boys and girls.

Graham Parks, of Ontario, is not only acting as the local club leader for the Ontario Poultry Club, but is giving free to any poultry club member in the Cairo Farm Bureau Community a setting of his pure-bred Rhode Island Red eggs.

A. B. Cain, of Ontario, is offering to any member of the Poultry club in Malheur County a setting of pure-bred White Leghorn eggs, they in return, giving him one pullet raised from these eggs.

Mr. Brumback, in the Big Bend community is furnishing free seed to any member of a corn club in the county. Mr. Fry, of Nyssa has offered to furnish free seed to the members of the Nyssa Corn Club.

The local leaders are very important factors in the success of the club work. Too much credit cannot be given to these men and women, who are giving up their valuable time to the boys and girls of the county.

LOCAL PERSONALS

E. K. Ingle is quite sick at his home on the Boulevard. He received a telegram stating that his brother, Will Ingle, had died at his home in Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Reynolds, former residents who left Ontario three years ago for Twin Falls, are making arrangements to return to Ontario within a couple of weeks. Their son, Fred Reynolds, a banker of Lakeview, Oregon, purchased the Griffin ranch two and three quarter miles southwest of Ontario where his parents will live. Mr. Reynolds says that they are glad to get back to Ontario among their many friends.

Fred Lees was operated on Friday at Portland for cataract on one of his eyes.

Misses Nettie, Lana and Margaret McDonald of Boise were week end visitors of their uncle, Donald McKensie.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22 IS OFFICIAL CLEAN-UP DAY

Mayor W. H. Doolittle has issued a proclamation, found elsewhere in this issue, declaring Friday, April 22 as "Clean-Up" day in Ontario. He has asked all the business houses to close during the afternoon, and the schools likewise, in order that the work may be prosecuted with vigor.

CONTRACTOR ARRIVES TO START ROAD WORK

C. W. Stone of Portland Sublets Work Over Entire Contract—Makes Ontario Headquarters and Lets Contract for Pipe

Work started this week on the Old Oregon Trail north of Ontario. C. W. Stone of Portland the general contractor for the work arrived Monday morning and with him came a number of sub contractors who have taken sections of the work.

Mr. Stone has sublet most of the work and will make this city his headquarters. He let one contract for 5000 feet of concrete pipe to the local concrete company and made other arrangements to prosecute the work as rapidly as possible. The county court was busily engaged this week in clearing up right-of-way matters, securing deeds from the men whose claims were arbitrated and in one of two instances preparing the necessary papers for condemnation suits.

SLAKE RIVER VALLEY PILL POUNDERS HOLD MEETING

The quarterly meeting of the Snake River valley druggists' association was held Tuesday of this week here in Ontario. The men gathered here during the afternoon and had their dinner together at the Pifer Cafe and following that held a business session at the City Hall. There were 20 pill pounders from the various towns all the way from Boise to Huntington in the gathering. This is the first meeting of the association ever held in Ontario.

LOCAL PERSONALS

Mrs. H. E. Roberts of Ponca, Oklahoma who has been visiting at the Van Petten home left Sunday for her former home in Oklahoma where she will visit for some time before returning to this country where they will reside, as Mr. Roberts recently purchased the Nyssa Hardware store at Nyssa.

Miss Pauline Johnson underwent a minor operation at Holy Rosary Hospital Monday.

J. J. Dickson and family of Emmett were in Ontario Sunday and Monday visiting Mr. Dickson's sister, Mrs. Jeanette Evans.

Mrs. Leroy Hull and little son of Glenn's Ferry who have been visiting at La Grande stopped in Ontario Sunday for a short visit with Mr. Hull's sister, Miss Georgia Hull.

Mrs. John Dumphy of Nampa is visiting Mrs. E. C. Van Petten.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherry Johnson of Nyssa were Tuesday Ontario shoppers.

The Christian Endeavor societies of the Congregational and Presbyterian churches held two meetings Sunday at Congregational Church both afternoon and evening. Representatives of the Vale Christian, Church and Nyssa Presbyterian Endeavor societies were also present, it being a get together meeting for discussion of plans for creating interest and enthusiasm among the young people. The Congregational Church orchestra furnished music for the evening meeting.

Marie Fahy was called to her home in Westfall Sunday by the serious illness of her mother. Word was received later that he passed away at 3:00 Monday morning.

Mrs. Dick Davis was visiting grandma Thomas Tuesday afternoon.

Rose McConnell is spending the week at the home of her parents south of Fruitland.

Mrs. Gene McCoy left Friday to visit her mother at Hatnes, Oregon.

G. E. Pollock who has been with the Eastern Oregon Land Co. for several months left for Boise Monday from which place he will go to Portland and coast cities.

Fred Courtney came over from Payette Saturday after his small daughter Rita who has been staying with her grand parents for the past few months.

Frank Irvington moved to the Anderson ranch near Malheur Butte Monday.

Mrs. George Gilham made a shopping trip to Boise Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hanafin spent a few days in Boise last week visiting friends.

Joe Watanabe returned Wednesday from a three months visit to Japan, bringing with him a bride. He encountered rough seas in crossing. He says the travel between United States and Japan is heavy. There were about one hundred and fifty Americans on board the ship, the balance being Japanese who like himself had been on a visit to their former home and were returning to the land of their adoption.

POWER COMPANY FILES PETITION FOR INCREASE

SHOULD PETITION BE GRANTED MALHEUR'S POWER BILL WILL BE INCREASED UPWARDS OF \$100,000 PER ANNUM.

ORGANIZED ACTION NECESSARY

Main Burden Falls on Irrigation Users Who Remain Apathetic Trusting Commission to Act Favorably Without Evidence

The Idaho Power Company offered its prepared record proof before the Idaho Public Service Commission, on April 6 at Boise, to show the purported valuation of its entire plant. This report consists of thirty six large bound volumes, reported to have cost \$200,000 and about one and half years time of a large force of office and field experts. It serves as the basis upon which the company bases its claim for increases in power rates which will all but spell ruin for those who are compelled to pay them, declared land owners who have used power for irrigation for years.

The hearing was continued until May 16, in order to permit power users to be prepared to cross examine and submit proof. The proof which has been, and will be, submitted in Idaho, together with the proof submitted by the Idaho and Oregon Commissions in fixing the valuation of the Idaho Power Company plants and upon this, rates for service will be determined sometime later.

Greatly increased rates, particularly for irrigation uses, have been applied for by the company. A temporary increase was granted them a year ago, but the final rates were held up pending a determination of the value of the property. Should these increases be granted, the irrigationists of Malheur county will be forced to deliver up approximately \$100,000 per annum additional toll or go out of business. Taking all business into consideration, the county's power bill will be increased by a sum far in excess of all county taxes, the extra burden falling upon territory developed largely because of contracts which were entered into with the power company which seemed to make such development practical.

The burden of defense is going to fall upon the power users to present their side of the case and to help the commission out in analyzing the valuations placed by the Power Company upon its properties, and in determining what fair rates are for the different classes of power users. Both the Idaho and Oregon commissions are overworked and hampered by lack of funds to make investigations; besides, the Oregon Commission at the present time, has particularly heavy matters pending before it which will require much of its time. There is great need for immediate action on the part of the power users in assembling data to prove before the commission what their side of the matter is. It will not do for the case to be presented to the Public Service Commission on a one-sided basis, showing only the power company's side which will naturally be made as favorable to the petitioners as possible. Otherwise, the commission may be powerless and without evidence or understanding of the real situation and the rights of parties to make what will be actually, or considered to be, an equitable decision from the standpoint of the power users.

As usual, however, the power users do not seem to be organized and ready. The farm bureau has been endeavoring to bring the ten or twelve irrigation districts in the county together for over a year and has recently met with partial success. The bureau has also busied itself in securing data to show the actual returns from a large number of farms under districts using power and has been partly successful in its efforts along this line. Several individuals have devoted no inconsiderable time and money in the cause. But on the whole the users seem to be apathetic and without interest in this vital matter, seeming to prefer to let it go by default. Several of the individuals who have borne the burden decided to let the users in general take their medicine and lose their property unless there is some disposition shown to back up their efforts.

AMERICAN LEGION FORMS BALL TEAM OF ITS OWN

Ontario Post of the American Legion has a ball team. The players all come from Ontario and all are members of the Post. At the first practice game held yesterday at the high school together, they played the boys' team nine and of course were defeated by the youngsters 11 to 2. It was the first time in years many of the Legion men have thrown a ball, but they expect to round into shape soon. The following was the initial line up: Henry Cassidy, Del Stoner, Fred Test, Dwight Pierce, Jack Gordon, Fred Gramse, S. M. Foucher, C. M. Tyler and Irving Harris. Dr. Tyler is the manager of the aggregation and they expect to play other Legion teams in the valley this summer.